

November 22, 1999

To: Assistant Secretary John Berry  
c/o Document Management Unit  
The Department of Interior  
1849 C. Street N. W. Mailstop -7229  
Washington, D.C. 20240

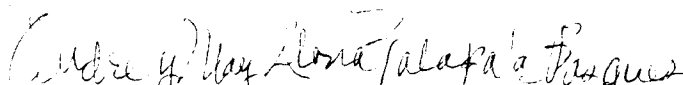
From: Luana Elizabeth Akana Palapala Hamakua  
P.O. Box 1283  
Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748

RE: Ka 'Ohana Education Concept

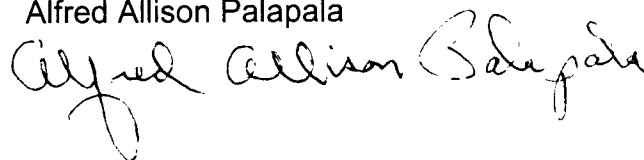
These values with humbleness and simplicity must be taught in our society today in order for the process of reconciliation to happen.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Luana Elizabeth Palapala Hamakua

  
Audrey May Ilona Palapala Basques

Alfred Allison Palapala



## Ka 'Ohana

The 'ohana in our household consisted of na makua, na keiki, sometimes tutu and aunties and uncles, at least that's how it was when I grew up in the Palapala household.

Our makua stressed a lot of values which in turn was important to pass down to our children and we see it carried on in the raising of their children. Values of ho'ihi or to respect the value of life was practiced. Respecting people especially those that were older, respect for the 'aina which gave us sustenance, respect for all things which surrounded us. Respect and ho'omaika'i or gratitude was practiced a lot in our home. It was important to be thankful in everything received. The older children helped out in the raising and caring of the younger siblings while dad worked and mom took care of the home. There was 8 of us children and with a full dwelling meant for us to hana with great meaning, working in lokahi and laulima meant that the hana would be done. To hana without being asked, to take care of kuleana even when it meant doing it alone whether around the house when working the 'aina or within the community was important. We were never known to be lazy workers. Everyone of us while growing up had a hana and by kokua were we able to learn of service to our extended 'ohana and neighbors. Ho'omana was important to our makua in the raising of us children, we went to church every Sundays, amongst other church activities that we were involved with. I remember the values of nana, ho'olohe, pa'a ka waha, a'o and than ninau or ask the questions when needed to perform any hana was also practiced.

We had and still have a great aloha for mele, our family loved music and this I saw growing up and can be seen in my children and in their children. It was my parents who made time to display instruments and singing within our home. I remember whenever there was music being shared within the immediate as well as the extended 'ohana meant such happy moments I will never forget.

It was my father who showed us great ahonui or patience. If there was any discipline to be done, it was done with caring and guiding words. It was mother who kept us going on the right track even if it meant a little physical discipline. As children, we had our share of being kolohe but we strived really hard to make choices that would preserve our family's good name.

Aloha was our foundation. It was our strength to strive as an 'ohana as well as a comforter when we were at our lowest. It's deep meaning of love was always held with high regards and pride. Possessing aloha meant loving not only your 'ohana but recognizing and loving your neighbor as well as the visitor. Aloha meant living in harmony with everything and everyone involved. Because of imperfect situations in life there were times of disharmony and when there was an imbalance within the 'ohana, it was important to make things right. My mother was strong with keeping things in balance and so the practice of ho'oponopono was a way of making the path smooth again.

*The Ki'alahi Pamehana  
Lucina E Palapala Hamakua*